

# INFOCUS



The Official Publication of The Jamaican Canadian Association  
**SPECIAL HOLIDAY EDITION 2012**



## THE LEGACY CONTINUES



**RESPECT**

**DIGNITY**

**COHESIVENESS**

**VISIBILITY**

**EXCELLENCE IN  
SERVICE**







## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

This has been a whirlwind year of activities for the Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) and Jamaica as we celebrated our 50th Anniversary. In October we were pleased to have been chosen by the governments of Canada and Jamaica to host a private reception for the Prime Ministers of Canada and Jamaica. This was the first time that a Prime Minister of Canada has visited the JCA Centre. The visit was in commemoration of 50 years of bilateral relationship between the two countries. For those who are interested they can view the video of Prime Minister Harper's speech on the JCA website and also listed is a copy of the article of Prime Minister Simpson-Miller presentation at the JCA. We were pleased to welcome back the Most Honourable Portia Simpson Miller in her capacity as the Prime Minister of Jamaica. When she last visited JCA in 2009 it was as our guest speaker at our annual Independence Gala in her role as the Opposition Leader. Prime Minister Harper, for his part, lauded the contributions of Jamaicans in Canada over the 50 years of bilateral relations and beyond.

As 2012 comes to a close we are faced with two great challenges, fundraising and the future of the JCA in the next 50 years. The increased cost that comes with the maintenance required for an aging building, cost of maintaining the programs we sponsor and the overhead required to run the organization makes it necessary to have a steady source of income. We have very few volunteers that are able to assist us with the repairs and are forced to seek professional assistance. As a result we are implementing cost saving measures where possible and are reviewing all events to ensure financial viability. The Fundraising Chair is currently working with a Consultant provided by the United Way to look at strategies to improving our fundraising abilities. The challenges with fundraising are not isolated to the JCA. This is common issue with all community organizations. We must look at smarter ways to raise funds and look at collaborative efforts where possible.

The other great task that the JCA has undertaken this year is a review of our governance model. This was in part triggered by the strategic planning process regarding our Social Services division. As most of you are aware, we have been engaging the JCA members and the wider community regarding the future model of the JCA. The question asked, 'If JCA was created today, what would JCA look like?' The working group assembled to lead us through this exercise consists of Past Presidents Roy Williams, Herman Stewart, Vincent Conville, Miah Bailey, JCA past Board Member Erma Collins, Current JCA President, JCA staff member Dr. Paulette Drummond and Chaired by Adaoma Patterson. By now most of you have seen the emails and letters soliciting your input in various workshops. We are encouraged by the level of engagement in this process by the new and existing members, both young and old. When I became President we talked about the baton being passed to the next generation, it's now time to chart the next course of JCA's history. Our goal is to have recommendations to present at the 2013 Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff I wish you a happy holiday season and a very safe and prosperous New Year.

Warmest regards,

*Audrey Campbell*  
President

### SMPT Registration OPEN!!!

The Saturday Morning Tutorial Program (SMTP) is in full swing and growing. Students are being led in Language, Math training and tutorial, as well as an appreciation of the Jamaican culture. They are strongly encouraged to engage in creative writing through the weekly Poetry Writing Workshops.

Once each month, the students present their "Spoken Words" on stage. Members may contact the Coordinator, Vilma Garnett, to find out presentation dates. Very soon the students will begin preparation for possible entry into the 2013 Spelling Bee of Canada Competition.

If you know of students who could benefit by attending the Saturday Morning Tutorial Program, contact Vilma Garnett, any member of the Education & Culture Committee, or the Chair Allan Jones at 416.746.5772.

Letter and submission welcome. The Editorial Committee reserves the right to edit materials.

## BLACKBIZPRO - LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER PUTS SPOTLIGHT ON BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES



**Dell Miller**

**AKILAH DRESSESKEIE: How did the business get started?**

**Del Miller:** I found that when I wanted to find black-owned businesses, it was hard to find them. I also saw that there were many other people who wanted to do business with black-owned businesses, and that black-owned businesses wanted to find a way to be located by people in our community. We're essentially facilitating that connection. In today's market, not a lot of people use traditional phone books to locate businesses. As an online directory, we help to make businesses more accessible. We also use Search Engine Optimization, which makes businesses easier and more search able. We focus mainly on search engines like Google, Bing and Yahoo. Within the past year we focused on name recognition and getting our directory populated. The Toronto market has grown significantly, but our goal is to service across Canada. Today we have businesses in Vancouver and Nova Scotia. Another reason we decided to start the directory is because there wasn't another directory that service Canada in this way.

**AKILAH DRESSESKEIE: What challenges have you faced in your first year?**

**Del Miller:** Marketing dollars and funding for advertising – there's never enough. Also, part of it is educating our business community. Some of our black business owners don't see the strength in online marketing. They're aware of the power of the Internet peripherally, but they tend to stick with things traditionally. Radio and television are still good ways to advertise to our community, but they cost more. A lot of our business owners need to take advantage of the other resources out there. There's a learning curve. I do educate clients when I have one-on-one interaction. Business owners are aware of the power of the Internet, but there's a certain amount of fear and skepticism that seems to go with it. Business owners are not dismissive, but they need some assistance in making the transition online.

**AKILAH DRESSESKEIE: What advice do you have for anyone looking to start his or her own business?**

**Del Miller:** Just do it! They say that a second of action is worth more than a lifetime of action. Nothing beats taking action. You do have to plan and put together some structure, but you have to take action. If you have an idea, test it out in some kind of way. You won't know unless you try. In our community, it's not that we don't have education. But we can be passive in taking chances or taking action.

**Article Submitted by Akilah Dresseskie**

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## THE WINDS OF CHANGE EXCITING TIMES AT THE JCA!

By Adaoma Patterson Executive Secretary

### WHO WE ARE

A committee formed late 2011 in response to a request by the membership to convene a meeting of the membership to discuss separation of social services and membership. Because recommendations from this working group will have significant implications on the future of JCA, the scope has expanded to ensure the four key areas of governance, membership, social services and volunteers are being reviewed and that any future model meets the membership & community's needs.

### MEMBERS

Roy Williams | Miah Bailey | Kamala-Jean Gopie | Erma Collins | Audrey Campbell | Sylvanus Thompson | Herman Stewart | Vincent Conville  
Paulette Crooks-Drummond | Adaoma Patterson

### WHAT IS BEING DISCUSSED?

THE WORKING GROUP MEETS REGULARLY AND HAS DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING:

1. Connecting this process to previous attempts to strengthen JCA's operational model including the 2008 organizational review and recommendations to determine which have been implemented and what options on a new model were presented to the membership.
2. The need for significant change at JCA – demographic shifts, changing needs of community, aging membership, an outdated governance and organizational model, changing definition of leadership.
3. Demographics & census information on the Black, Caribbean, African-Canadian populations in Ward 8 & GTA.
4. Discussions on the whether the social services should formally separate from the membership services.
5. Determining the needs of the community.
6. The ongoing challenges of JCA operating as both a social services agency and membership organization.
7. With the assistance of the strategic planning consultant, reviewed and proposed changes to JCA's mission, vision & values statements.

### HOW WE ENGAGE THE MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY IN THIS PROCESS

- On June 14 we hosted a community forum entitled *If JCA Was Created in 2012, What Would it Look Like?* More than 30 participants attended the session which included a panel discussion with Sandra Carnegie-Douglas, Roy Williams, Herman Stewart and Dr. Sheldon Taylor. Participants were very engaged in the discussion about challenges and opportunities facing the Black community and how the JCA can respond.
- On November 13 we hosted a membership forum entitled *JCA – Path to the Next 50 Years*. The forum was intended to provide an update of this process, discuss the revisions to JCA's mission, vision & values, get better understanding of what events, initiatives and programs we should start/stop/continue. Based on feedback from participants, we revised our process to ensure members and the community has ample opportunities to inform this work.
- The Executive Secretary provides regular updates to the Board.
- The February, May and August quarterly membership meetings have provided updates on the work of this committee.
- The August and November 2012 In Focus featured an article on the process.
- The Working Group and Board participated in a facilitated discussion in October to discuss drivers for change and brainstorm on possible future roles for JCA.
- As a Board rep on the Social Services strategic planning process and this Working Group, the Executive Secretary has ensured both processes are aligned and connected.

## JCA SOCIAL MEDIA

KEEP INFORMED THROUGH JCA SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/JCA\\_Ontario](https://twitter.com/JCA_Ontario) | @jca\_ontario

Like Us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/JamaicanCanadianAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/JamaicanCanadianAssociation)

Join our Facebook Group: The Jamaican Canadian Association

## WOMEN'S SPACE

HIGHLIGHT'S BLACK FEMALE FEMINIST ACTIVIST



Joan Cummings

Born in Kingston, Jamaica, Joan migrated to Toronto in 1985. Joan studied at the University of Ottawa, Canada and was awarded the B.Sc. in Biology cum laude in 1983. She also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Water and Environmental Management from the University of Loughborough, UK (2010).

Joan's first contact with the Jamaican-Canadian community was in 1985 as a volunteer for the Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) and a member of the Ujamaa Young People's Association, formerly CCYA.

She describes herself as a Black feminist activist with a particular focus on systemic racism and sexism in government policies and programmes. She volunteered as the JCA's receptionist among other roles, later becoming its Immigrant Settlement Counsellor, where she interacted with many domestic workers.

Joan then worked with the Immigrant Women's Health Centre as the Black Community Counsellor on Reproductive Health Issues and Rights and later the Centre's Coordinator. She then participated in the conception and inception of the first and only fully funded community based health center for women in Canada, Women's Health In Women's Hands Community Health Centre, as a Health Promoter and then its Executive Director.

Her work at WHIWH involved immense struggles, including a well-publicized 'sit in', to ensure that the centre remained community based and focused on immigrant and refugee women; women with disabilities; young women and older women. She led the Centre through many successes including the enactment and passing of legislation on female genital mutilation and guaranteed funding for uninsured women, among other issues.

Joan took her combination of activism, leadership and managerial skills to the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC), where she first served as its Treasurer, and then was overwhelmingly elected as its first Black and longest lasting president from 1996-2000.

As President, Joan was described by the 1,200 strong membership of this premier women's organization as a consensus builder, a prolific and energetic speaker and writer, a strong ally of the labour and international solidarity movements such, as democracy and sovereignty for East Timor, justice for African Colombians, and the "disappeared" in Colombia. On behalf of the latter, with Jamaican Rosemary Brown, she participated on an international tribunal, and presented the verdict under dangerous circumstances to communities in Colombia. She represented Canadian women at the United Nations and other international forums.

Joan has several publications included in the acclaimed Journal of Canadian Women's Studies.

Joan returned to her native Jamaica in 2000 with her husband Everton and son Khiry, where she continues her development work. This includes her role as the Executive Director of the much acclaimed Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ). She continues her feminist activism work as a member of Caribbean Dawn.

Article Submitted by Eunice Graham



## JCA PICNIC 2013



## JCA 10TH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



## JCA SOCIAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES 2013



## RECEPTION AT THE JCA WITH PM OF CANADA & JAMAICA



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



## FORUM ON THE FUTURE OF JCA



## JCA RENOVATIONS & REPAIRS







## CONGRATULATIONS DR. SYLVANUS THOMPSON

Sylvanus Thompson

Mr Mel Knight, the Chairman of the International Federation of Environmental Health, Americas Region, recently announced the appointment of Dr Sylvanus Thompson as the Secretary of the Regional Group.

The Federation is an organisation whose full members are national associations representing the interests of environmental health professionals throughout the World. The Federation works to disseminate knowledge concerning environmental health and promote co-operation between countries where environmental health issues are transboundary. It promotes the interchange of people working in this sector and the exchange of Member's publications of a scientific and technical nature. Amongst other things, the Federation seeks to provide means of exchanging information and experience on environmental health, to hold Congresses and meetings to discuss subjects relevant to environmental health science and administration, to represent the interests of environmental health to state agencies, national governments and international organisations and to promote field studies of environmental health control.

One reason for establishing the International Federation of Environmental Health was the understanding that environmental health issues do not recognise man made boundaries, and that countries which are geographically contiguous, or are in close proximity, may have common problems some of which may be unique to the Region. The Regional Groups are responsible to the Federation Council, they operate administratively on conventional lines but, with the exception of issues referred to them by the Council, they are themselves responsible for fixing meetings and making appropriate arrangements. The Regional Groups are Africa, The Americas, Europe, Asia & Pacific and Middle East.

"Sylvanus is the only person who is a member of all three Associations that make up the Americas Region" says Chairman Mel Knight. The Associations are the USA based National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CI-PHI) and the Jamaica Association of Public Health Inspectors (JAPHI). Sylvanus is NEHA's Technical Advisor on International Environmental Health, a Past president and Lifetime Member of JAPHI, a member of various other professional and community based organizations, and an Associate Director for Toronto Public Health.

### CUSO INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH FOR JAMAICA



Cuso International is an international development organization with over 50 years of experience working in Jamaica and around the world. The new 7-minute documentary 'Their Day in Court' <http://www.youtube.com/cusointernational> shows that life can be difficult for children living in the creative but sometimes volatile inner-city neighbourhoods of Kingston, Jamaica. If a youth is a victim of crime and has to go to court, the case could fall apart because the child is too frightened to testify. That's why Cuso International and partner groups including the Jamaican government created the 'Children in Court' program. Please note: this video contains difficult subject matter meant for a mature audience. The Cuso International Diaspora Volunteering Program provides diaspora communities with the opportunity to volunteer and contribute to development initiatives in their country of heritage. We are currently recruiting members of the Jamaican community who have professional skills, hands-on knowledge and perspectives needed to work in solidarity with our Jamaican partner organizations to reduce poverty, share skills and change lives. Our placements require volunteers to have in-depth knowledge and understanding of the culture and context of the placement country. To view our current openings in Jamaica and in our other country programs: <http://cusointernational.org/> To read about Jamaican-Canadian Elaine Thompson's experience volunteering in Jamaica with Cuso International: <http://cusointernational.org/content/voluntary-home-coming-jamaica> Cuso International welcomes your support - whether it is through helping us raise awareness of the work being done in Jamaica in your community, becoming a Cuso International supporter, or applying to volunteer your skills. Andrea Bacsfalusi, Cuso International's Diaspora Volunteering Advisor, would be happy to discuss your future engagement with Cuso International: [andrea.bacsfalusi@cusointernational.org](mailto:andrea.bacsfalusi@cusointernational.org) or toll-free 1 (888) 434-2876 ext. 360.

## CELEBRATING A LIVE OF GIVING

By Dwaine Osbourne



I was told by many that I missed a great party.

I was also told or scolded (depending on how you look at it) by a very special person in particular that, "if you want to know about me then you should have been at the party to interview the people who were there." This person made a strong point, as she always tends to do, even if you have a good argument of your own. I did have a good reason for missing the event, but it came also with a humble apology for missing the party or better yet, the celebration of the year. The Sept. 23 celebration in the JCA banquet hall marked the 90th birthday of long-time member Ms. Amy Nelson. Ironically, her 90th was also celebrated the same year as two other important milestones: Jamaica's 50 years of independence, and the JCA's 50th anniversary. "My Grandmother always told me if you want to know the real thing then you have to go straight to the horse's mouth," I explained to Ms. Amy, using the old Jamaican adage in my request for an interview. "Well, you should listen to your Granny more often," she replied. Then, with a smile, she added, "what do you want to know?" It makes sense that Ms. Amy's milestone was marked at the JCA. She is a founding member when it was first established 50 years ago, and she continues to be a cornerstone to that foundation. When Ms. Amy told me that she hails from Spaulding, Clarendon, I smile. "No wonder we get along so well. We're from the same beautiful parish," I said. I was met with a look that simply said, 'if I was you Grandmother, child'. We continued. Ms. Amy pursued a career in nursing, and completed her training at Victoria Jubilee Hospital and Kingston Public Hospital, both in Kingston. Her profession took her to many hospitals across the island, allowing her to live and work in Spanish Town, Port Maria, Kingston, and Lionel Town. The latter being a memorable stop where she worked at Lionel Town Hospital and again I was happy note our attachment, "I was born there". She continued, "I helped to build that hospital operation. When I got there, it was just starting from scratch so I assisted in setting up the surgeon area with the training of the other nurses. This was great time because I was assisting in building, and being a part of something important for the community."

### Making the Move to Canada

Ms. Amy soon set sights on moving to Canada, hoping to settle in Toronto. Her good friend, Evelyn Hemming, who migrated from Jamaica to work as nurse in Toronto, encouraged her to make that big step. In the middle of January winter 1959, Ms. Amy arrived in Toronto, met at the airport by another friend, Joyce Myers. She was blessed with employment offers from two major Toronto hospitals: Mount Sinai Hospital and Toronto General Hospital. Ms. Amy decided to accept the position at Toronto General. She settled in comfortably because she was in the midst of other nurses who had migrated from Jamaica and she was Ms. Amy, undaunted and flushed with confidence. When asked if she had experienced any discrimination in the workplace, she replied, "I did not see black and white. I told them I am here to serve and I know my job. I let my work speak for me." Before long, Ms. Amy had made Toronto General her little domain. In 1964, she became the head nurse in the Ophthalmology Surgical department.

### The Birth of the JCA

I wanted to know how the JCA came to be, and I remembered a story that I had once heard. "I heard this story that JCA was conceived from a party," I said. And so she related that the real social network existed then (maybe not unlike Facebook or Twitter, as we know today). There was a small group of colleagues who gathered regularly. When Jamaica received its independence from Britain, they organized a celebration at the King Edward Hotel. The outpouring of Jamaicans and supporters who attended the event gave birth to the idea of an organization to represent the growing number of Jamaican immigrants coming to Toronto. It would be called the Jamaican Canadian Association. The mandate of the organization grew to advocating on behalf of immigrants who face discrimination, becoming a voice for them and assisting people who were lost in a foreign country. The movement was on, and Ms. Amy and the growing numbers of people supporting the organization and the community donated much of their time to volunteering.

### Commitment to Volunteerism

Somewhere in the middle of my interview, stopped to have a brief discussion with a JCA member. Both the member and myself received a lesson in 'Ms. Amy Volunteering 101' with these simple words. "If you promise to volunteer, you should do it. It's a job and responsible one. People are depending on you and your commitment." Needless to say we were humbled at the lesson and her wisdom.



# CONTINUED....CELEBRATING A LIVE OF GIVING

By Dwaine Osbourne

"At one point I had three jobs. I was working at Toronto General, JCA and for a mission," Ms. Amy chuckled.

After receiving an invitation and a request for help from a physician in 1972, Ms. Amy went to the Dominican Republic to volunteer with Medical Mission International. She would help to setup an eye surgery clinic with few resources, but much zeal.

"We were going to make it work. I was in charge of this surgical operation. If I felt you were not capable to do a good job then you not allowed in the room," she explained. Since then, Ms. Amy used her seniority and respect at Toronto General to get unpaid time off and donated supplies to go on these annual mission trips. Her paid vacation time was used to go Jamaica. She even successfully recruited hospital technicians and nurse assistants to go.

"I have been to the four continents," she proudly smiled. The professional continued her quest of medical volunteering on missions to a number of countries, some of which include Ghana, Brazil, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, China, Singapore, Russian, and Mexico.

I later learned that Ms. Amy's volunteer efforts at the JCA included helping to run the catering arm of the organization. At one point, the JCA offered catering services to renters of its hall and JCA events. This became a fundraising for the JCA. "We even use to bake and sell patties. A couple years ago a gentleman from the United States was visiting and asked if I still baked those nice patties. I told him no. The patties back then were done with tender loving care, unlike patty baking today which is all done by machine," she reminisced. I realized more that this is a woman who is committed to running a tight ship, so that quality can be at the forefront of everyone's collective effort.

The halls of this current JCA building where Ms. Amy and I sat for our interview have her signature all over it as part of that collective effort to finding a building. What a celebration I missed within these same halls with people coming from all walks of life to celebrate with a lady who has given her best first with a firm stance for quality and responsibility.

Ms. Amy retired from her nursing position Toronto General in 1986. She has been even more committed to keep 'working'. She helped to start the Caribbean-Canadian Seniors group with the late Alec Russell. The very active group operates out of the JCA building. Ms. Amy also finds time to volunteer on various JCA committees. She is active with the Ontario Health Commission and the Alliance of Seniors, among other groups. These commitments and drive to contribute on her part has garnered her many awards and praises.

This proud lady has one son, Norman, and two grandchildren, Dwayne and Nicole. She would proudly tell you though that she has more than one child, and many more grandchildren, eluding to the many lives she has touched, and the families who have adopted her as a second mother. I have concluded that I would need more than a the two-hour interview, a 15-minute car drive and two blueberry muffins to truly document the 90 years of someone who has given so much to the JCA and her community.

I was tempted to ask her if she came through the airport in 1959 with a vice-grip suitcase and a big heel shoes. My thought is I would get that look that said, 'if I was you Grandmother, child'.

To Ms. Amy with love.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### Building Committee Seeking skilled:

Painters, Electricians, Carpenters and Gardeners

Those interested please contact Building Chair William Jenkins at 416.746.5772

### Public Relations Seeking Skilled:

Writer, Editor, Graphic Designer, Social Media Liaison, Community Liaison, Photographer, Street Team

Those interested please contact Interim PR Chair Simone Banton at 416.746.5772 ext. 454

### Additional Committee's Seeking Volunteers:

Youth Affairs, Education & Culture, Fundraising, Women's Space and Membership.

For further details please contact the committee chairs directly at 746.5772.

## MEMBERSHIP SERVICES REPORT

By Pam Reynolds Membership Chair



The Membership Committee has been extremely busy since our last report. We hosted both the Seniors Brunch and annual Children's Christmas Party that was well attended.

We are also looking at providing additional services to the wider community. The feedback from past JCA and non-current members have stated they are either planning to return to active membership or join the JCA in the near future.

Although growth has been seen in the organization, it is certainly not enough. We must continue to attract and recruit new members, as well as encourage and retain our existing ones.

All new members are welcome at the JCA and we hope you will take an active role in the organization. Recruiting at least one member from your circle of friends would give them an opportunity to participate, add their voice and support, thus enabling the committee to expand their services to the greater community.

Your membership is important and beneficial to all of us. Members whose status is not current do not receive the benefits of being a member of the JCA. If you are unsure of your current status, please do not hesitate to contact the membership office at 416.746.5772 for an update.

Our challenge to the membership at this time is: "EVERY MEMBER SHOULD ENLIST AT LEAST ONE NEW MEMBER PER QUARTER"

## BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE

By William Jenkins Building Chair



Deriving from committee meetings and approvals from the board, assessments were made and the following infra- structural work was carried out.

### FLOORS

The floor was reconstructed to include the laying of new tiles in the following area: Halls 1 and 2 the Lobby and the Board area.

### LIGHTING

Lightings throughout the building were replaced with energy saving fixtures.

### ROOF

Two extra drainage system were added to the roof and all leaks sealed.

### REPAIRS

All Air Condition units, security cameras, monitor, doors lacks, ice machine, Dish washing machine Replaced Kitchen Sink and Cooler

### PAINTING

All four entrances painted including the lobby area.

A special thank you to the following members for being instrumental in making these projects possible. Namely: Mr. Dwight Gordon, Mr. Glen Gordon, Mr. Herbert Green, Mr. Clive Hylton, Mr. Wilbert Johnson, Mr. Doug Robertson, Mr. Leon Sutherland Miss Amy Nelson Mr Dean Parker Mr. Noel C Lewis and William Jenkins





## DEEDS SPEAK:

York Regional Police builds solar Panel for Friends of the Poor orphanage in Jamaica.

JCA's Vice President Dr Sylvanus Thompson and York Regional Police Chief Eric Jolliffe pose before the huge Solar Panel at Mt Tabor in Rural St Andrew, Jamaica. The panels were installed by the Chief, 17 of his York Regional Police Officers and other volunteers to provide electricity to the Father Richard Ho Long orphanage sponsored by YRP.

## 2013 ELECTIONS AT THE JCA

Are you interested in having an impact on the organization and community? The Nominating Committee is looking for committed individuals to join the board for a two-year term. The following positions are up for election May 2012:

Executive Vice-President | Assistant Secretary | Treasurer | Membership Chairperson  
Women's Committee Chairperson | Public Relations Chairperson

The ideal candidate has knowledge about JCA's social services and membership activities, understanding of governance, ability to volunteer 15 – 20 hours per month, knowledge of community issues, willingness to help JCA explore its future role in the community and transition to a new model.

If you are interested or would like additional information, please contact the Executive Secretary at [execsec@jcaontario.org](mailto:execsec@jcaontario.org). A member of the nominating committee will follow-up with you.

## JCA UPCOMING EVENTS 2013

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WALK GOOD COMMITTEE 2013

It's that time of year to begin planning for the Walk Good event. As you may be aware, Walk Good is the major fundraising initiative for the JCA and benefits not only JCA programs but also many other community services such as Tropicana and BBPA. We are looking for new members with the following skills to serve on the committee:

1. Public relations and marketing experience
2. Web experience
3. Strong administrative skills
4. Volunteer recruitment skills

If you are interested in serving on this important and fun committee, please contact Sandra Whiting at [s\\_whiting@rogers.com](mailto:s_whiting@rogers.com).

### WORKSHOP ON THE FUTURE OF JCA

Sat. Jan. 19 @ 9:30AM-12PM

Sat. Feb. 16 @ 9:30AM-12PM

### SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP

Sat. Feb. 2 @ 12pm-1pm

### ANNUAL BOONOOONOS

Sun. Feb. 10 @ 1PM

### QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sun. Feb. 24 @ 2PM-5PM

Sun. Aug. 25 @ 2PM-5PM

Sun. Nov. 24 @ 2PM-5PM

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sun. May 26 @ 1PM-5PM

*Wishing you all the best this holiday season and continued prosperity in the coming year.*

*From the Board of Directors  
& Staff at the JCA*

